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Via ECFS  
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to  
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I chose a local Oregon provider for my broadband and VOIP telephone service because their cost was the lowest in our community. Once I became their customer, I have stayed with them (so far it's been nine years) because their customer service is superb compared to the previous providers, Charter and Verizon, that I had when I lived in Los Angeles. I have carried a non-working modem in my car to their nearby office where they fixed it. In fact, they have fixed all my issues with their service, and in a timely way. With Charter, my setup never worked correctly and the employees on the other end of the phone line could not help me.

Broadband is now a required service for daily life in our society, as you know. Consolidation in this industry will bankrupt many of us because the prices of the service will rise in a steep curve. Don't allow national corporations to strangle competition. It will hurt all of us and impact communication in the commons, which is so important now in these perilous times.

Karen Horn